

ROUTING MESSAGE

25X1

Approved For Release 2003/05/14 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100160033-5

PAGES

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CLASSIFICATION

CONFIDENTIAL

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE-TIME GROUP

CITE

CIA/DCI/WH12WH 740916

CIA/WHSS

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SOURCE REF:

ROUTING	1	4	7	10
	2	5	8	11
	3	6	9	12

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No Item Number

TO : IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE//SITUATION ROOM FOR MR FAZIO-H

25X1

ITEM NO - WH-1

DATE : 16 SEPTEMBER 1974

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SUBJECT: FRENCH TO MAINTAIN INCREASED NAVAL PRESENCE IN INDIAN
OCEAN

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THE FRENCH NAVY IS REPORTEDLY SENDING ANOTHER SQUADRON OF SHIPS TO THE INDIAN OCEAN NEXT MONTH. THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER CLEMENCEAU--CARRYING A MIXED COMPLEMENT OF PLANES AND HELICOPTERS-- WILL BE ACCCOMPANIED BY A FRIGATE, A DESTROYER, AND TWO OIL TANKERS. A DETACHMENT OF MARINES REPORTEDLY WILL ALSO ACCOMPANY THE FORCE.

THE MOVE REFLECTS A GROWING FRENCH CONCERN THAT THE INDIAN OCEAN, THROUGH WHICH OIL TANKERS SAIL TO EUROPE, NOT BE LEFT IN THE EXCLUSIVE DOMAIN OF THE US AND THE USSR. *BECOME THE SOLE CONTROL* *RUM*

IN LATE APRIL OF THIS YEAR, PARIS SENT A SQUADRON OF THREE SHIPS TO THE INDIAN OCEAN FOR A CRUISE OF ABOUT SIX MONTHS. THE CARRIER FORCE APPARENTLY WILL REPLACE THE SQUADRON NOW ON PATROL, AND SUGGESTS THAT PARIS INTENDS TO MAINTAIN INDEFINITELY AN INCREASED NAVAL PRESENCE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN.

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Especial Distribution :

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ORIG:

UNIT: CIA OPS CTR

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